

Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2006 6:30 PM
To: MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov
Subject: MLPAComments: MLPA - support of package 2

Dear MLPAComments,

I am writing to urge you please to adopt the strongest environment and fisheries protections possible as you determine the marine reserve landscape.

At this point, the strongest proposal presented is Package 2. Please adopt that without diminishing protections any further. We need to protect our fisheries - they are shrinking so fast. I am a SCUBA diver who comes from a fishing family. Part of my upbringing was being responsible for what I enjoy.

Rather than being "entitled" to fish; we are responsible for fish.
Rather than being "entitled" to dive in the ocean, I am responsible for the ocean. It's a privilege, not a right. We are guests here and borrowing from our grandchildren. If we don't protect the environment now; we damage the future.

For myself, I gave up ab diving because, much as I love eating abalone, there just aren't enough. I have also curtailed eating fish in general - no rockfish, ling or other "red/yellow-light" fish at all.

I can't write strongly enough in favor of adopting Package 2 as-submitted, since it already contains multiple compromises.

I support protecting the north boundary of Pt. Lobos marine reserve and associated conservation area as well as the north and east boundaries of Carmel Pinnacles State reserve.

I support an unbroken State Marine Reserve in Monterey Bay from Breakwater to Lovers Point, including Hopkins Deep Reef.

I support keeping Yankee Point reef protected. Those are pristine reefs. Let's do whatever we can to keep them that way.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Katherine C.